



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	LYNCHBURG, VA	Accident Number:	BFO86FA038
Date & Time:	07/01/1986, 2339 EDT	Registration:	N133P
Aircraft:	BEECH 95-B 55	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	4 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE NON-INSTRUMENT RATED PILOT FILED AN IFR FLIGHT PLAN INTO KNOWN AND FORECAST IFR WEATHER. DURING HIS SECOND ILS APPROACH TO THE AIRPORT, AFTER THE CONTROL TOWER HAD CLOSED, HE FAILED TO UTILIZE THE AIRCRAFT RADIO TO ILLUMINATE THE APPROACH LIGHTING SYSTEM. THE PILOT FAILED TO LOCATE THE RUNWAY ENVIRONMENT IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO COMPLETE THE ILS LANDING. THEREAFTER, HE LOST CONTROL OF THE AIRCRAFT WHILE ATTEMPTING TO CIRCLE UNDERNEATH THE 300 FOOT CEILING ON THE DARK NIGHT AND THE AIRCRAFT CRASHED INTO TREES ON THE AIRPORT.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: CIRCLING (IFR)

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
 2. (C) MISSED APPROACH - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
 3. (C) UNDERCONFIDENCE IN PERSONAL ABILITY - PILOT IN COMMAND
 4. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
 5. (C) PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 6. (C) SPATIAL DISORIENTATION - PILOT IN COMMAND
 7. (C) IFR PROCEDURE - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
 8. (C) LACK OF TOTAL INSTRUMENT TIME - PILOT IN COMMAND
 9. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
 10. (F) SELF-INDUCED PRESSURE - PILOT IN COMMAND
 11. (C) JUDGMENT - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: CIRCLING (IFR)

Findings

12. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	32, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Expired	Last FAA Medical Exam:	11/02/1983
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	275 hours (Total, all aircraft), 79 hours (Total, this make and model), 188 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N133P
Model/Series:	95-B 55 95-B 55	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	TC829
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	09/20/1985, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	62 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3741 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated, aided in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-470 L
Registered Owner:	GRAF BAE FARM, INC	Rated Power:	260 hp
Operator:	MICHAEL R. DRINKARD	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	LYH, 938 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2332 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	2 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 300 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	40°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	19° C / 14° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	BUFFALO, NY (BUF)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	2058 EDT	Type of Airspace:	Airport Advisory Area

Airport Information

Airport:	LYNCHBURG MUNICIPAL (LYH)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	938 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Used:	3	IFR Approach:	ILS
Runway Length/Width:	5799 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	3 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	4 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	AL DICKINSON	Report Date:	04/25/1988
Additional Participating Persons:	LEO D BOHNKE; RICHMOND, VA KENNETH E GARDNER; WICHITA, KS DEAN M THOMPSON; WICHITA, KS WALTER G STEINER; ATLANTA, GA		
Publish Date:			
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinquiry@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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